

**BY ORDER OF THE  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

**AIR FORCE MISSION DIRECTIVE 6**

**28 JUNE 2016**



**AIR FORCE SPECIAL OPERATIONS  
COMMAND**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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(Lt Gen John W. Raymond)

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This directive states the mission, command structure, and responsibilities for the Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC). Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) using an AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route AF Forms 847 from the field through appropriate functional chain of command. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained IAW Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 33-363, Management of Records, and disposed of IAW the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule (RDS) in the Air Force Records Information Management System (AFRIMS).

**1. Mission.** AFSOC prepares assigned or attached forces to apply specialized airpower under combatant commanders. AFSOC prepares forces to conduct independent, joint, or combined operations in support of Aviation Foreign Internal Defense, Force Application, Joint Air/SOF Battlefield Interface, Mobility of Forces in Denied Territory, and Psychological Operations mission areas. AFSOC provides force application and force enhancement in conducting direct action (DA), unconventional warfare (UW), special reconnaissance (SR), foreign internal defense (FID), counter-proliferation (CP), and counter-terrorism (CT) missions. AFSOC's mission training also prepares Air Force Special Operations Forces (AFSOF) for many collateral activities such as humanitarian assistance, counter-narcotics, and personnel recovery operations. This organization is a Major Command of the US Air Force.

**2. Command.** The AFSOC Commander:

2.1. Is responsible to the Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force for administration.

2.2. Commands the Air Force forces of the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM).

2.3. By direction of the Commander, USSOCOM, exercises operational control (OPCON) of assigned and attached forces.

2.4. Provides forces and exercises administrative control (ADCON) for AFSOF forces provided to USSOCOM.

2.4.1. Upon full mobilization, exercises ADCON of Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard special operations forces. Under less than full mobilization, may exercise specified elements of ADCON over Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard special operations forces.

**3. Responsibilities.** AFSOC Commander:

3.1. Provides air component commanders and AFSOF in support of USSOCOM.

3.2. Ensures US Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard special operations forces are interoperable and operationally ready.

3.3. Develops and tests special operations concepts, doctrine, plans, and tactics.

3.4. As directed, plans, conducts, controls, and coordinates air operations for Commander, USSOCOM.

3.5. Standardizes procedures, equipment, organization, and training for all Combat Control Forces, except those assigned in the Air Education Training Command (AETC), and ensures a combat ready force to support worldwide joint operations and Air Force airlift.

DAVID L. GOLDFEIN, General, USAF  
Vice Chief of Staff